



BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS... St. Helen's CYO 5/6 Grade Girls Basketball Team Wins Championship at St. Elizabeth's in Linden Holiday Tournament. Pictured, left to right, are: front row, Jackie Weidman, Caitlin Thrower, Julianne DiLeo, Marie-Claire Hausseguy, Kristina Fietkiewicz, and Casey DePalma, and back row, Pamela Church, Gio Palatucci, Anna McGrath, Maura Connolly, and Meghan McGroary. Not pictured are teammates Rachel Louie and Diana Bartolomeo.

County Park Fees to Remain At Same Levels This Year

As part of its promise to keep the cost of county services to the public at a steady level, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced that there will be no increase in any park user fees this year. "Union County operates one of the finest park systems in the state of New Jersey," said Freeholder Chairman Nicholas P. Scutari. "After analyzing the current economic status of the county during the present budget cycle, the Board of Chosen Freeholders has determined that for the first time in more than 20 years, no increases in recreational fees are warranted at this time. By controlling costs throughout county government, we can take this un-

precedented step," he said. "Over the past few years, the public utilizing county recreational services, particularly in the area of golf, have faced some disruptions in service due to renovation of facilities. Additionally, members of the public have been very understanding in those years when user fee increases were necessary," observed Freeholder Finance Committee Chairman Alexander Mirabella. "This year we are able to give our recreational users a break while balancing our county budget and not raising taxes," he added.

Pay-as-you-go user fees are charged at some county recreational facilities in order to keep pace with operational and maintenance costs. Rather than have these specialized opportunities be fielded totally by tax revenues from the general public, fees are charged to those who have chosen to participate in that particular type of recreation thus offsetting the cost to the taxpayers. "The really extraordinary news is while not raising county taxes, or park user fees, we will be continuing to improve our park facilities during the coming year," concluded Freeholder Scutari. "Our aggressive playground renovation program will proceed, grants to municipalities through the Freeholders' Pocket Parks initiative will continue, and improvements to Galloping Hill and Ash Brook golf courses will be completed," he noted.

Scotch Plains Masters 40+ Basketball League Results

FEBRUARY 2:
Merrill Lynch 52, Mercedes/Morristown, 32

Warren Warriors 31, International Realty 29

FEBRUARY 4:
Scotch Plains Renegades 54, De-Fence 49
Mercedes/Morristown 59, Big Sky Bread Company 36

| TEAM | W-L | Percentage |
|---------------------|-----|------------|
| Merrill Lynch | 1-0 | 1.000 |
| Warren Warriors | 1-0 | 1.000 |
| Sc Plns Renegades | 1-0 | 1.000 |
| Mercedes/Morristown | 1-1 | .500 |
| De-Fence | 0-1 | .000 |
| Intnl Realty | 0-1 | .000 |
| Big Sky Bread | 0-1 | .000 |

The Warriors of Warren beat a good International Realty team, showing that they are for real this season; adding burly 6'4" Greg Carney and gritty guard Ed Chmielewski to last year's squad seemed to pay dividends at both ends of the floor for Warren. 6'8" Brian Hill, a former Lehigh player, stood out for International.

In the week's most exciting tilt, the Renegades held off a second half challenge by De-Fence, featuring Spud Monroe, Sean Murray and speedy Richard Goski, frantically making up for an 11-point halftime deficit. Particularly effective for the Scotch Plains team were Greg Smith and Charles Turner on the boards, and Jeff Cove from 15 feet.

Letters to the Editor

Traffic Safety Issues In Downtown Should Be Seriously Addressed

I have read your article about pedestrian problems and feel we should be focusing on more than jaywalking at the train station. I think that we would all benefit from a more visible and helpful police presence in our downtown area.

The corner of East Broad Street and Central Avenue is a problem. Cars turning onto East Broad from Central inch out until they block the right hand lane of Broad in front of the Rialto Theatre. Cars turning left from East Broad onto Central ease out and block oncoming traffic.

Up until a few years ago, there was always an officer on duty at that corner. He was standing in the circle in the middle of the intersection, directing traffic. He never let people jaywalk in front of Häagen Das, no cars stopped in front of the Rialto, and he never let cars ease out to the point that they were blocking traffic. The corner was a safe place to cross, if you were a pedestrian.

Now, although there is often a police officer in the vicinity, he is rarely directing traffic. In the morning when I go to work, the officer is usually standing in the doorway of Gap Kids.

If he decides to help someone cross the street, he usually steps about four or five feet off the curb and holds his hand out to his side. As a driver, it is difficult to see him and anticipate what he wants you to do until the last moment. If he were standing in the circle in the middle of the intersection, drivers could see him and watch for his signals.

Another problem corner is the intersection of East Broad and Prospect Street.

Both as a driver and as a pedestrian, it is a very dangerous corner. Visibility is often reduced by illegally parked cars in front of Bovella's. If a patrolman is in the area, most often he is standing in the doorway of Brunner's, not directing traffic.

Cars and pedestrians alike take their chances by inching out into the flow of traffic and then making a dash for it. Although I work on Prospect, when I leave in the evenings I try to avoid this corner by driving up to Cowperthwaite and then down Elm Street to East Broad, where I can take advantage of the traffic light.

Drivers and pedestrians today are in a hurry and impatient. If drivers knew that an officer would eventually facilitate their turns, perhaps they would take their time and be a little more courteous. If pedestrians knew that the police officers were aware of their movements, maybe they wouldn't be darting across the street in the middle of the blocks.

Westfield is lucky to be undergoing a revitalization with many new and attractive stores opening. These stores do, however, attract people from other towns who are not familiar with our traffic patterns.

Perhaps if the police were there to offer assistance to drivers and pedestrians alike, we would all have a happier experience and a better flow of traffic in our shopping district.

Mrs. R. J. Loughrey
Westfield

SPANC Chairman Requests Action, Cooperation From Mayor Samuel

Editor's Note: This letter was also sent to Scotch Plains Mayor Geri Samuel.

In June 1989, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) illegally moved Newark Airport departure flight paths over Scotch Plains to provide noise relief to other areas. Prior to June 1989, Scotch Plains did not have an aircraft noise problem.

It is documented that more Scotch Plains residents suffer from aircraft noise than those living in the city of Elizabeth, with the airport in its midst.

Members of the Scotch Plains Aircraft Noise Committee, Inc. (SPANC) have been working on this issue with the Mayor and Council since 1989. We have been providing sites for Port Authority noise monitoring equipment that records the amount of noise each aircraft emits, its altitude, identity, destination, etc.

Scotch Plains is one of the few New Jersey towns that can document the impact of air traffic on the community. Due to SPANC's efforts, we have years of data, worth thousands of dollars, at no cost to the taxpayers of Scotch Plains.

This data proved that the FAA's recent 260-degree test caused a 20 percent increase in aircraft noise over Scotch Plains.

In early December, I sent you and the other Democratic Council members a packet of information to help you understand the aircraft noise issue. A number of people spent considerable time and effort to put this data together.

I also included a request to be reapportioned as the Scotch Plains representative to the Union County Freeholders Air Traffic Noise Advisory Board. As you know, I filled that post in 1997-1998.

To date, you have not responded to the information or my request. SPANC is a

non-partisan organization. Our only goal is the reduction or elimination of air traffic over Scotch Plains.

Your campaign literature criticized the Republican Council for the "cavalier manner in which citizens are treated." From 1989 to 1998, we had an open and productive relationship with Scotch Plains officials.

Together, we have kept the concerns of Scotch Plains residents in front of the FAA, Port Authority, and the aviation industry. I hope you will work with us towards aircraft noise relief for the residents of Scotch Plains.

We have two requests: 1. To our knowledge, there has been no public notice of Scotch Plains appointees to the Union County Freeholders Air Traffic Noise Advisory Board. We would like to know who you appointed, and why you feel they are qualified to represent Scotch Plains.

The Council recently passed a resolution supporting a live test of ocean routing. This is an admirable gesture that no one can fault.

Unfortunately, FAA Administrator Jane Garvey, in an October 26, 1998 letter to Congress said, "A testing of the magnitude required for ocean routing is not possible, given the current configuration of the airspace, without sacrificing safe and efficient operation of the National Airspace System."

2. Since the FAA refuses to consider ocean routing and our Federal officials are powerless to force them to test it, what other action do you intend to take to provide aircraft noise relief to the residents of Scotch Plains?

A timely reply is requested.
E. Dennis Hardie
Chairman, SPANC
Scotch Plains

Hospice Volunteer Advises Against Euthanasia and Offers Resources

The letter from Susannah Skolnik-Smith concerning the death of her grandfather is a sobering reflection on what the observation and "waiting for death" can do to the human psyche.

We can be empathetic as humans because these feelings can be emotional disasters, bitterness, rage, even hate, and a raging grief. For Ms. Skolnik-Smith's bereavement must be very difficult, and it doesn't have to be.

I would recommend to her a book by C.S. Lewis, "A Grief Observed." The

story of shattered dreams, a maddening grief and abandonment.

Mr. Lewis married late and suddenly found himself confronted by the terminal illness of his wife of four years. It took him four years to rediscover his faith, and a chance to remember the joys of their lives, and the sound of her final words to him, "you made me happy. I am at with God," words that were lost in his misery of four years.

Shadowland was the movie made from the book with Sir Anthony Hopkins as Lewis.

In our day, since 1972 the Hospice Movement has grown, and staggered in the recent upsets and has rebounded in its importance by a renewal of its original mission statements. I speak very specifically of The Center for Hope Hospice (CFHH) in Linden for more than 15 years.

The Robert Wood Foundation, after extensive research in this field were not creating the compassionate mood for the elderly and terminally ill in a palliative treatment situation where they would die in comfort, in their own homes, and with the dignity to which they are entitled.

RWJ Foundation created a several million dollar fund to provide educational programs to further conclusions, and CFHH in Linden was awarded one of the first grants.

For Ms. Skolnik-Smith, there are other options to euthanasia, "mercy killings and the followers of Socrates (The Hemlock Society) or the cold, indifferent actives of the Kervockans.

Your Jewish tradition like my Christian tradition and many of the other great religious traditions of the work, has great respect for life and the inevitable death to which it is a part.

The talk about "angels wrapped in clouds whisking you off to eternal bliss" has reduced basic creed to the level of fairy tales and fantasy. Life and death are much more important than that.

I would be very happy to help Ms. Skolnik-Smith find reference sources on Hospice (magazines and papers seem to be full of them these days!) And my long years of experiences volunteering to the terminally ill with Hospice, and will say learning experiences because the people I have known taught me more than they know about dying, but living also.

Moria C. Cappio
Boston College

George E. Keenen, Jr.
Scotch Plains

Softball Registration Opens for SP-F Girls

Registration will commence for girls softball sponsored by the Scotch Plains Recreation Commission February 16-26 in the Recreation Office, Park Avenue, Scotch Plains. Girls in grades three through eight will be registered, and teams will be formed according to the number of registrations. Entry fee is \$15.00.

This is an instructional league designed to help the girls learn game fundamentals through practices and in game situations. Volunteers are needed as coaches to assist in operating the leagues formed. All who volunteer, however, not yet certified through the Rutgers Youth Sports Council must attend the session scheduled for March 18 at the SP-F High School 7-10 p.m. For further information or questions, call 322-6700.

County Offers Training For Softball Umpires

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Union County Amateur Softball Umpires' Association will offer a five-week training course for men and women, 18 and older, to become registered softball umpires.

Classes will be held on five Mondays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the Union County Administration Building, Elizabeth Plaza, Elizabeth.

The \$60 registration fee includes all course materials. To register and obtain additional information, please contact the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation at (908) 527-4900 or Keith Benovengo at (908) 232-7042.

Women For Women Plans Session With Nicole's Yoga

Women for Women of Union County will provide a special introduction to yoga as part of its continuing education workshop series on Friday, February 26, at 7:30 p.m. at Nicole's Yoga in Garwood.

Nicole's Yoga was established in 1988. Twenty-two classes are taught weekly.

The workshop has been designed for individuals who want to learn more about yoga. Participants will learn importance of yoga as a means of relaxation and stress reduction.

Postures, energy centers or chakras, breath control, concentration, meditation and visualization will be techniques included in the workshop. Admission will be free.

Nicole's Yoga has held fundraisers for several organizations, raising money for local college scholarships. The center has contributed to the Westfield "Y" children with cancer, and Mobil Meals.

Women for Women is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing support services to the women in the Union County area.

For more information, please call Nicole's Yoga at (908) 232-5787.



GOING IN FOR THE LAYUP... Recently, the Edison Intermediate School faculty played basketball against the students. Going for a layup is teacher Mr. Sanders as student Bobby Wilt rushes for the rebound.

Westfield Softball Registration Set

Registration for the Westfield spring softball season will be held on Saturday, February 20 and 27 from 9:00 am until noon in Roosevelt Intermediate School cafeteria. Registration is open to all Westfield girls in grades 2 through 8th grade.

Mail-in registrations will be available through the elementary and intermediate school in February. The Deadline for registration is March 1. Late registrants cannot be guaranteed team placement. Parents interested in coaching or helping with special projects are asked to volunteer at this time.

If you have questions, please call Bob Guerriero at 654-1799, John Fietkiewicz at 233-7851 or Teri Tracy at 654-6776.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY CHANCERY DIVISION UNION COUNTY DOCKET NO. F-4754-97

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: LESLIE J. CRAFT; JOHN DOE, HUSBAND OF LINDA M. HICKS, SAID NAME JOHN DOE BEING FICTITIOUS; BURDINE'S SUNSHINE FASHIONS

YOU ARE HEREBY summoned and required to serve upon ALLOCCA & PELLEGRINO, P.C., Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 4 Century Drive, Parsippany, New Jersey, 07054, an Answer to the Complaint and Amendments to Complaint (if any) filed in a Civil Action in which FUNB cust. for D.H. & Assoc. is plaintiff and Constellation Bank, N.A., et. als. are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, within Thirty-five (35) days after FEBRUARY 11, 1999, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure. You are further advised that if you are unable to obtain an attorney you may communicate with the Lawyer Referral Service of the county of venue and that if you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the county of venue. The names and telephone numbers of such agencies are as follows:

Lawyer Referral Service: (908) 353-4715
Legal Service: (908) 354-4340

THE ACTION has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the following tax sale certificate(s):

1. A certain tax certificate 91-425, recorded on August 22, 1994, made by James P. Allen, Collector of Taxes of City of Plainfield, and State of New Jersey to City of Plainfield and subsequently assigned to plaintiff, FUNB cust. for D.H. & Assoc. This covers real estate located in the City of Plainfield, County of Union, and State of New Jersey, known as 132-34 Terrill Road,

Block No. 443, Lot No. 27, as shown on the Tax Assessment Map and the Tax Map duplicate of City of Plainfield.

YOU, Leslie J. Craft, are made a defendant in the above entitled action because title of record to the premises became vested in Howard Craft and Marjorie Inez Craft, his wife, by Deed from Howard Craft and Marjorie Craft, his wife, dated October 30, 1962, and recorded in the Union County Clerk's Register's Office on October 31, 1962, in Deed Book 2613, page 358. The said Howard Craft died on June 2, 1970 at Union County, New Jersey (File No. C7415 in the Union County Surrogate's Office). The said Marjorie I. Craft, widow, died intestate on May 13, 1986 at Union County. According to the Complaint for Administration dated June 21, 1988 and recorded in File No. 19871 in the Union County Surrogate's Office, said Marjorie I. Craft was survived by the following heirs at law and next of kin: Leslie J. Craft, et als. Title of record to the premises then became vested in Leslie J. Craft, et als. as joint tenants with right of survivorship, by Deed from Leslie J. Craft, Individually and as Administrator of the Estate of Marjorie I. Craft, Joyce E. Craft, David B. Craft and Linda M. Hicks dated April 27, 1990 and recorded in the Union County Clerk's Register's Office on May 7, 1990 in Deed Book 3637, Page 0173. By virtue of the foregoing, Leslie J. Craft, is joined as a defendant herein.

YOU, John Doe, husband of Linda M. Hicks, said name John Doe being fictitious, are made a defendant in the above entitled action because plaintiff has been unable to determine whether defendant Linda M. Hicks is married, and if married, the name of Linda M. Hicks' spouse. If Linda Hicks is married, the plaintiff joins John Doe, husband of Linda M. Hicks, said name John Doe being fictitious, as a defendant for any possessory or marital rights you may have.

YOU, Burdine's Sunshine Fashions, are made a defendant in the above entitled action because on May 22, 1979, Burdine's Sunshine Fashions entered a Judgment against David L. Craft for a debt of \$490.45 plus interest and costs in the Superior Court of New Jersey under Docket No. DJ-2821878. This constitutes a subordinate lien on the property.

DONALD F. PHELAN
CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF NEW JERSEY

Allocca & Pellegrino
4 Century Drive
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
1 T - 2/11/99, The Leader Fee: \$92.82

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS INVITATION TO BID

Invitations are extended to qualified Bidders to bid for the following Project:

PURCHASE OF 1,500 GALLON HIGH PRESSURE SEWER CLEANER WITH SINGLE AXLE TRUCK CHASSIS

Bids will be accepted only by mail or in person to the Office of the Township Clerk, Scotch Plains Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076 (ATTN: Barbara Riepe, Township Clerk) until April 7, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. The Township of Scotch Plains (hereinafter "Township") shall not be responsible for any bid mailed which is lost in transit or delivered late by the Postal Service. At the above time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. All bids must be presented in sealed envelopes which are clearly marked "Bid for Purchase of 1,500 Gallon High Pressure Sewer Cleaner with Single Axle Truck Chassis" Township of Scotch Plains, New Jersey. No bid will be received after the time and date specified.

After receipt of bids, no bid may be withdrawn within sixty (60) days after the date of the bid opening except if provided for herein. The bid of any Bidder who consents to an extension may be held for consideration for a longer period of time as may be agreed upon between Bidder and the Township.

All bids must be on the bid forms provided by the Township of Scotch Plains in the Bid Package. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained from the Office of the Director of Public Property, 2445 Plainfield Avenue, Scotch Plains, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Bid proposals and all required documents must be completed and submitted by the date as set forth above. All documents in the enclosed Bid Package must accompany the bid proposal.

In addition to the above documents, a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond issued by a responsible bank, trust company or insurance company, payable to the Township of Scotch Plains shall be submitted

with each bid as a guaranty that if a contract is awarded the Bidder shall execute said Contract. The Bid Security shall be in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid or Twenty-Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), whichever is lower.

All Bid Security, except the Bid Security of the three (3) apparent lowest responsible Bidders shall, if requested in writing, be returned after ten (10) days from the opening of the bids (Sunday and holiday excepted) and the bids of such Bidders shall be considered withdrawn.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive immaterial informalities, or to accept any bid which, in the opinion of the Township of Scotch Plains, will be in the best interest of the Township, all in accordance with the New Jersey Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. In the event of an equal or tie bid, the Township shall award the bid to the Bidder which, in the Township's sole discretion, best serves the interest of the Township.

The Township also reserves the right to reject any and all bids if sufficient funds are not available and/or appropriated.

The selected Bidder, will, within seven (7) days of award of the bid, enter into an appropriate contract with the Township.

All Bidders must comply with P.L. 1975, Chapter 127, entitled "An Act Relating to Affirmative Action in Relation to Discrimination in Connection with Certain Public Contracts and Supplementing the Law Against Discrimination approved April 16, 1945 (P.L. 1945, Chapter 169), N.J.A.C. 17:27, as amended from time to time, and the Americans with Disability Act.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS OF THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

Thomas E. Atkins
Municipal Manager

Barbara Riepe
Township Clerk

Walter F. DiNizo
Director of Public Property
1 T - 2/11/99, The Times Fee: \$82.62